

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 ST JOH 00330 271921Z

53

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15

ACDA-10 /079 W

----- 042094

R 271800Z DEC 75

FM AMCONSUL ST JOHNS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1308
INFO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
US NAVFAC ARGENTIA NFLD UNN

UNCLAS ST JOHNS 330

E.O. 11652 N/A

TAGS MARR CA
SUBJ EDITORIAL ON US NAVAL BASE AT ARGENTIA, NEWFOUNDLAND
REF ST. JOHN S 328

1. ENLARGING ON ITS STRAIGHT NEWS ARTICLE OF 12/22/75 RE
ARGENTIA (SEE REFTEL), ST. JOHN S EVENING TELEGRAM OF 12/27/75
HAD AS ITS LEAD EDITORIAL, HEADLINED "ACQUIRING ARGENTIA", A
REPLAY OF THE SUBSTANCE OF THE PREVIOUS ARTICLE INTERSPERSED
WITH SPECULATION AND COMMENT. PARA 2 BELOW IS PARAPHRASE OF
EDITORIAL.

2. SOME HACKLES RAISED LOCALLY WHEN HMG, AS PART OF WEST
INDIAN BASES-FOR-DESTROYERS DEAL, TOSSED IN NEWFOUNDLAND
BASES TOO AND WITHOUT QUID PRO QUO. CONCERN ABOUT 99-YEAR
LEASES WAS MOSTLY UNNECESSARY SINCE MOST BASES REVERTED TO
LOCAL CONTROL WITHIN 30 YEARS. US NAVAL-AIR STATION AT
ARGENTIA, HOWEVER, STILL HAS SUBSTANTIAL COLONY OF AMERICANS
AND EMPLOYS FAIR NUMBER OF LOCAL CIVILIANS.

OTHER BASES HAVE LONG SINCE BEEN TURNED OVER TO
MUNICIPAL, PROVINCIAL, AND FEDERAL GOVERNMENTS AND PUT TO
USEFUL PURPOSES. BUT ARGENTIA, BECAUSE OF SOME UNDISCLOSED
USG POLICY, PRESENTS A PUZZLE AND A COMPLICATED SITUATION.
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 ST JOH 00330 271921Z

ALTHOUGH SOME PORTIONS OF BASE HAVE BEEN ADAPTED FOR LOCAL

USE, POTENTIAL LATENT IN PORT FACILITIES, BUILDINGS, AND AIRPORT REMAINS IN LIMBO BECAUSE OF LACK OF KNOWLEDGE OF WHAT AMERICANS HAVE IN MIND FOR ONCE-BUSY BASE. INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT MINISTER LUNDRIGAN IS LATEST ONE TO MENTION THIS. ALTHOUGH AMERICANS HAVE MOVED OFF NORTH SIDE OF BASE, THEY HAVE NOT RELEASED IT. COMPANIES NOW OPERATING THERE ARE DOING SO UNDER TERMS "COMPLETELY UNACCEPTABLE" FOR THOSE INTERESTED IN LONG-TERM DEVELOPMENT. IT IMPERATIVE THAT PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT GAIN ADMINISTRATIVE CONTROL OF THIS PART OF BASE AND LUNDRIGAN PLANNING DISCUSS THIS WITH EXTAFF EARLY IN NEW YEAR. QNDRIGAN S PREDECESSOR COMMENTED ON "TORTUOUS ROUTE" NEGOTIATIONS WITH EXTAFF AND AMERICANS USUALLY FOLLOW. IT WOULD BE UNFORTUNATE IF PROVINCE FAILED ACQUIRE ARGENTIA BECAUSE OF FEDERAL RED TAPE OR AMERICAN DOG-IN-MANGER ATTITUDE.

3. BELIEVE IT UNLIKELY THAT EITHER LUNDRIGAN OR EVENING TELEGRAM PLANS FURTHER PUBLICITY ON ARGENTIA FOR TIME BEING. FOR THAT REASON, BELIEVE NO USEFUL PURPOSE TO BE SERVED BY PRESS RELEASE FROM THIS OFFICE OR LETTER TO THE EDITOR TO GIVE USG S POSITION. I STAND READY TO DISCUSS MATTER WITH EDITOR OF EVENING TELEGRAM IF DEPARTMENT OR EMBASSY OTTAWA BELIEVES THIS DESIRABLE. IN MY OPINION NO SUCH DISCUSSION NECESSARY OR DESIRABLE UNLESS THIS EDITORIAL TURNS OUT TO BE KICK-OFF OF CONTINUING SERIES OF ARTICLES OR EDITORIALS.

4. POUCHING 12/22/75 ARTICLE AND 12/27/75 EDITORIAL TO EUR/CAN AND EMBASSY OTTAWA.

MOORE

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT, MILITARY BASES, REAL PROPERTY ACQUISITION, DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 27 DEC 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975STJOH00330
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750448-0411
From: ST JOHNS, NEWFOUNDLAND
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19751210/aaaaaipo.tel
Line Count: 92
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 03 DEC 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <03 DEC 2003 by ReddocGW>; APPROVED <15 JAN 2004 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: EDITORIAL ON US NAVAL BASE AT ARGENTIA, NEWFOUNDLAND
TAGS: MARR, CA, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006